

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Applicants have carefully considered this application in connection with the Examiner's Action and respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

The Applicants originally submitted Claims 1-42 in the application. Presently, the Applicants have amended Claims 6, 15, 20-21, 30 and 34-35 and have neither amended, canceled, nor added any other claims. Accordingly, Claims 1-42 are currently pending in the application.

### **I. Formal Matters and Objections**

The Examiner has objected to the drawings as not complying with 37 C.F.R. §1.84(o). In turn, the Applicants have sent or will shortly be sending replacement sheets denoting the descriptive legends of all blocks in FIGURES 1-5.

The Examiner has also objected to certain Claims as containing informalities; namely various typographical or grammatical errors. In response, the Applicants have amended the appropriate claims to correct these inadvertent errors and appreciate the Examiner's diligence in finding and bringing these errors to their attention.

### **II. Rejection of Claims 2 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §112**

The Examiner has rejected Claims 2 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as their invention. Specifically, Claims 2 and 30 contain the term "may be", which

the Examiner rejects as indefinite. Accordingly, the Applicants have amended these claims to replace the term "may be" with "are". Thus, the Applicants request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

**III. Rejection of Claims 1, 3, 5, 9-11, 13-17, 19, 23-25, 27-29, 31, 33, 37-39 and 41-42 under 35 U.S.C. §103**

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 3, 5, 9-11, 13-17, 19, 23-25, 27-29, 31, 33, 37-39 and 41-42 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,363,444 to Platko, *et al.* ("Platko") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,969,121 to Chan, *et al.* ("Chan"). Each of Claims 1, 15 and 29 includes, in one form or another, an application specific integrated circuit (ASIC) that includes a programmable logic core. Specifically, independent Claims 1 and 29 outwardly require that the ASIC include the programmable logic core, wherein independent Claim 15 claims a method for operating an ASIC including a programmable logic core. Both Platko and Chan fail to teach or suggest this ASIC including a programmable logic core.

Platko is directed to a slave processor to slave memory data transfer with master processor writing address to slave memory and providing control input to slave processor and slave memory. (Title). Platko teaches that an ASIC 16 is coupled to a serial EEPROM 26 via a bus between the serial EEPROM 26 and an EEPROM interface 58. The Examiner argues that the EEPROM 26 of Platko is inherently a programmable logic core, and thus Platko teaches or suggests an ASIC containing a programmable logic core. The Examiner's analysis of Platko, however, is inherently flawed. Specifically, the EEPROM 26 of Platko is not part of its ASIC 26, but is a stand-alone structure coupled to the ASIC 26 via the bus between the EEPROM 26 and the EEPROM interface 58. Accordingly, Platko fails to disclose the element that the ASIC contains a programmable logic core. Moreover, Platko fails to suggest such an element because Platko requires that the EEPROM interface 58 be located within the ASIC to accommodate the standalone EEPROM 26. Thus, Platko fails to teach or suggest this element.

Chan also fails to teach or suggest the claimed element that the ASIC contains a programmable logic core. The Examiner is offering Chan for the sole proposition that the programmable logic core has an array of dynamically configurable arithmetic logic units. Notwithstanding the merits of the Examiner's proposition, Chan further fails to teach or suggest the claimed element that the ASIC contains a programmable logic core. A teaching or suggestion of a programmable logic core having an array of dynamically configurable arithmetic logic units is dissimilar to a teaching or suggestion that an ASIC contain the programmable logic core, as currently claimed.

Thus, Platko, individually or in combination with Chan, fails to teach or suggest the invention recited in independent Claims 1, 15 and 29 and their dependent claims, when considered as a whole. Accordingly, these references fail to establish a *prima facie* case of obvious with respect to these claims. Claims 1, 3, 5, 9-11, 13-17, 19, 23-25, 27-29, 31, 33, 37-39 and 41-42 are therefore not obvious in view of Platko and Chan.

In view of the foregoing remarks, the cited references do not support the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1, 3, 5, 9-11, 13-17, 19, 23-25, 27-29, 31, 33, 37-39 and 41-42 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

#### **IV. Allowable Subject Matter**

The Examiner has indicated that Claims 6, 20-21 and 34-35 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objection set forth in this Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner has also indicated that Claims 4, 7-8, 12, 18, 22, 26, 32, 36 and 40 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgement that these claims are novel, however, at this time the Applicants are unable to make any of the suggested amendments. Specifically, independent Claims 1, 15 and 29 contain novel subject matter without the inclusion of these additional elements. The Applicants, however, reserve the right to make the suggested amendments at a later time if necessary.

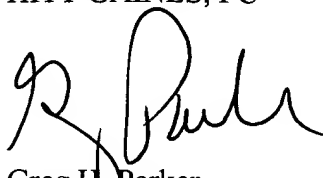
**V. Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicants now see all of the Claims currently pending in this application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-42.

The Applicants request the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

HITT GAINES, PC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg H. Parker", written over the printed name.

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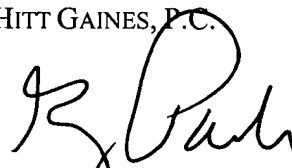
**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Applicants originally submitted informal drawings when the above-identified application was filed. To properly amend the drawings according to C.F.R. §1.121, the Applicant submits Replacement Sheets 1-6.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicants respectfully request the acceptance of the Replacement Sheets 1-6.

Respectfully submitted,

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